

Board of Education Agenda Item

Item: _____ F. _____

Date: _____ January 15, 2009 _____

Topic: First Review of Timeline for the Review of the *English Standards of Learning*

Presenter: Dr. Linda Wallinger, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

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Origin:

_____ Topic presented for information only (no board action required)

☒ Board review required by
 ☒ State or federal law or regulation
 _____ Board of Education regulation
 _____ Other: _____

☒ Action requested at this meeting _____ Action requested at future meeting: _____ (date)

Previous Review/Action:

☒ No previous board review/action

_____ Previous review/action
 date _____
 action _____

Background Information:

The Board of Education adopted a schedule for review and revisions to the *Standards of Learning* on September 26, 2007 as part of its comprehensive plan. Accordingly, the *English Standards of Learning* are scheduled for review in 2009-2010.

Code of Virginia § 22.1-253.13:1-2 By October 1, 2000, the Board of Education shall establish a regular schedule, in a manner it deems appropriate, for the review, and revision as may be necessary, of the Standards of Learning in all subject areas. Such review of each subject area shall occur at least once every seven years. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the Board from conducting such review and revision on a more frequent basis.

Summary of Major Elements:

Using an established review process and criteria, the Department of Education plans a review of the current *English Standards of Learning*. The College Board and ACT reports that analyze the *English Standards of Learning* with their respective postsecondary readiness standards as well as American Diploma Project (ADP) alignment study documents will be provided to the review committees for consideration. The College Board and ACT analyses were presented to the Board at its September 2007 meeting. The review committees will also consider relevant national reports and documents. A proposed timeline is attached.

Superintendent's Recommendation:

The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education waive first review and grant approval for the Department of Education to proceed with the revision process for the *English Standards of Learning*.

Impact on Resources:

The Department of Education administers the state standards review process. The agency's existing resources can absorb this responsibility at this time.

Timetable for Further Review/Action:

Upon approval, the Department of Education will provide information to all interested parties according to the timeline described in Attachment A.

**PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR THE REVIEW OF
THE *ENGLISH STANDARDS OF LEARNING***

January 2009

A Superintendent's Memorandum is distributed that:

- announces the schedule of the review process;
- announces the availability of an *English Standards of Learning* review/comment page on the Department of Education's Web site;
- requests that division superintendents share information about the Web site with instructional staff; and
- requests that division superintendents submit nominations for review team members.

The Department of Education posts on its Web site an *English Standards of Learning* review/comment page for the 2002 *English Standards of Learning*. The page will be active for 30 days.

**February -
March 2009**

The Department of Education seeks nominations for other stakeholders and identifies members of the review team.

April 2009

The Department of Education aggregates and conducts a preliminary analysis of the comments entered on the Web page.

June - July 2009

The Standards of Learning review team meets for two days to:

- analyze statewide Web page input;
- review national documents and reports as necessary;
- review postsecondary alignment study results prepared on Virginia's *English Standards of Learning* by the College Board, ACT, and Achieve; and
- make recommendations for potential revisions.

**August 2009 -
September 2009**

The Department of Education English staff prepares a draft of the proposed English Standards of Learning that reflects team's comments.

The draft of the proposed *English Standards of Learning* is made available to English educators in Virginia institutions of higher education and professional organizations that focus on English education, as well as to the business community, for review and comment.

The Department of Education English staff and the steering committee, a subgroup of the review team, meet to discuss and review the comments and prepare the draft *English Standards of Learning* for first review by the Board of Education.

October 2009

The Department of Education presents the proposed *English Standards of Learning* to the Board of Education for first review.

November 2009	The proposed <i>English Standards of Learning</i> document is distributed for public comment. The document is placed on the Virginia Department of Education's Web site for review.
November - December 2009	Public hearings are held as prescribed by the Board of Education.
February 2010	The Superintendent of Public Instruction presents the proposed <i>English Standards of Learning</i> to the Board of Education for final review and adoption. The final document is posted on the Department of Education's Web site within three weeks of adoption.
May 2010	The approved <i>English Standards of Learning</i> are disseminated to K-12 schools and local school division central offices.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR THE REVIEW OF THE ENGLISH CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK

February 2010	The Department of Education identifies a review team to assist with the review of the Curriculum Framework. The Curriculum Framework defines the content knowledge, skills, and understandings that are measured by the <i>English Standards of Learning</i> tests.
March 2010	The Department and review team members meet to review the Curriculum Framework and make any edits required for realignment with the revised <i>English Standards of Learning</i> .
April 2010	The Department of Education presents the draft Curriculum Framework to the Board for first review.
May 2010	Public hearings on the proposed Curriculum Framework are held as prescribed by the <i>Code of Virginia</i> .
July 2010	The Superintendent of Public Instruction presents the proposed Curriculum Framework to the Board of Education for final review and adoption. The final document is posted on the Department of Education's Web site.